

# Three Cups of Tea Vocabulary List

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Student Name

## Introduction: “In Mr. Mortenson’s Orbit”

crag: n –

sortie: n –

ibex: n –

paltry: adj – r

paiya chu: n –

jirgas: n –

irrefutably: adv –

madrassa: n –

## Chapter 1: “Failure”

shalwar kamiz: n –

porter: n –

scree: n –

promontory: n –

rapelling: n – t

**facsimile:** n –

## **Chapter 2: “The Wrong Side of the River”**

**predicament:** n –

**cornice:** n –

**colossi:** n –

**cairns:** n –

**Allah Akbhar :** n –

**cha:** n –

**rupees:** n –

**taciturn:** adj –

**fetishize:** v –

**erudite:** adj –

**brigand:** n –

**kurba:** n –

**primordial:** adj –

**zamba:** n –

**angrezi:** n –

**topi:** n –

**nurmadhar:** n –

**As-Salaam Alaaikum:** n –

**balti:** n – t

**naswar :** n –

**cheezaley** : n –  
**Inshallah**: n –

### **Chapter 3: “Progress and Perfection”**

**lassi and chapatti**: n –

**urdwa**: n –

**spartan**: adj –

**biango**: n –

**chogo rabak**: n –

**prelapsarian**: adj –

**serpentine**: adj –

### **Chapter 4: “Self-Storage”**

**interminable**: adj –

**missionaries**: n –

**serendipity**: n –

**impetuousness**: n –

**expatriate**: v –

**oblivious**: adj –

**menial**: adj –

**homogenous**: adj –

**untethered**: adj –

**avocation:** n –

## **Chapter 5: “580 Letters, One Check”**

**maw:** n –

**frugality:** n –

**vertiginous:** adj –

**quixotic:** adj –

**tempestuous:** adj –

## **Chapter 6: “Rawalpindi’s Rooftops at Dusk”**

**charpoy:** n –

**chokidar:** n –

**hazzan:** n –

**muezzin:** n –

**wudu:** n –

**infidel:** n –

**zakat:** n –

**azarband:** n –

## **Chapter 7: “Hard Way Home”**

**cricket:** n –

**languid:** adj –

**salaamed:** n –

**dua:** n –

**abyss:** n –

**sisyphian:** adj –

**riverine:** adj –

**sage:** adj –

**fatalism:** n –

**irremediable:** adj –

## **Chapter 8: “Beaten by the Braldu”**

**cosmopolitan:** adj –

**indignant:** adj –

**fervency:** n –

**celestial:** adj –

**formidable:** adj –

**bravado:** n –

**imploring:** adj –

**stolid:** adj –

**impassively:** adv –

**revered:** adj –

**aggrieved:** adj –

**solicitous:** adj –

**topis:** n –

**biryani:** n –

**wizened:** adj –

**balti:** n –

**flailing:** adj –

**emaciated:** adj –

## **Chapter 9: “The People Have Spoken”**

**overwrought:** adj –

**palpable:** adj –

**faux:** adj –

**dilapidated:** adj –

**soliloquy:** n –

**alleviate:** v –

**camaraderie:** n –

**rancorous:** adj –

**traverse:** v –

## **Chapter 10: “Building Bridges”**

**nostalgically:** adv –

**mullah:** n –

**apocalyptic:** adj –

**vagaries:** n –

**convene:** v –

**naswar:**

**inscrutable:** adj –

**buttressed:** adj –

**deity:** n –

**animist:** n –

**placation:** n –

**pilgrimage:** n –

**odysseys:** n –

**forage:** v –

**contiguous:** adj –

**Bedouin:** n –

**incredulously:** adv –

**unwieldly:** adj –

**guile:** n –

**advocates:** n –

**unimpeded:** adj –

## **Chapter 11: “Six Days”**

**accruing:** adj –

**venture capitalist:** n –

**stupor:** n –

**paunch:** n –

**bloke:** n –

**begetting:** adj –

**indefatigable:** adj –

**beckoned:** v –

**deference:** n –

## **Chapter 12: “Haji Ali’s Lesson”**

**deferentially:** adv –

**squalid:** adj –

**laudable:** adj –

**matrimonial:** adj –

**nuptials:** n –

**derelict:** adj –

**austere:** adj –

**sheath:** n –

**sanctify:** v –

**mandate:** n –

**ornate:** adj –

**precipice:** n –



**flanked:** adj –

**cadences:** n –

**pilfered:** adj –

**kafir:** n –

## **Chapter 13– “A Smile Should be More than a Memory”**

**Taliban:** n –

**exhort:** v –

**fiery:** adj –

**lucrative:** adj –

**taut:** adj –

**shunted:** v –

**arbitrarily:** adv –

**infamy:** n –

**guerilla:** n –

**purdah:** n – t

**temperate:** adj –

**hashish:** n –

**hookah:** n –

**besotted:** adj –

**phalanx:** n –

**dispiriting:** adj –

**winnowed:** adj -

**garish:** adj -

**banshee:** n -

**fundamentalist:** n -

**fawning:** adj -

**tedium:** n -

**fledgling:** n -

**cacophony:** n -

## **Chapter 14- “Equilibrium”**

**prone:** adj -

**ornery:** adj -

**contrarian:** n -

**sheepishly:** adv -

**septic shock:** n -

## **Chapter 15: “Mortenson in Motion”**

**fatwa:** n -

**predestination:** n -

**fakhir:** n -

**convivial:** adj -

**mired:** adj –

**sectarian:** adj –

**volubly:** adv –

**leer:** v –

**spearheaded:** v –

**unprecedented:** adj –

**dervish:** n –

**zakat:** n –

**inauguration:** n –

**dignitaries:** n –

**voyeur:** n –

## **Chapter 16: “Red Velvet Box”**

**inexorably:** adv –

**licentiousness:** n –

**unadorned:** adj –

**placate:** v –

**apocalyptic:** adj –

**pantheon:** n –

**transcend:** v –

## **Chapter 17– “Cherry Trees in the Sand”**

**principality:** n –

**wrest:** v –

**behest:** n –

**incursion:** n –

**retort:** n –

**parity:** n –

**impunity:** n –

**ruefully:** adv –

**skittish:** adj –

**apparition:** n –

**tasbih:** n –

**torrent:** n –

**arabesques:** n –

**logistics:** n –

**opaque:** adj –

**lamentation:** n –

**scavenge:** v –

**ochre:** n –

**unrelenting:** adj –

## **Chapter 18: “Shrouded Figure”**

**insolvency:** n –

**volatile:** adj –

**tenacity:** n –

**delegate:** v –

**phantasmagorical:** adj –

**vigil:** n –

**cursory:** adj –

**self-aggrandizing:** adj –

**kowtowing:** adj –

**hospice:** n –

**miffed:** adj –

## **Chapter 19: “A Village Called New York”**

**methodical:** adj –

**loath:** adj –

**presiding:** adj –

**monotheist:** n –

**proselytize:** v –

**extremism:** n –

**jihad:** n –

**indoctrination:** n –

**stark:** adj –

**pristine:** adj –

**rhetoric:** n –

**embolden:** v –

**enclave:** n –

**acute:** adj –

**monotony:** n –

**ostensibly:** adv –

**abstain:** v –

**cordon:** v –

**obstinacy:** n –

**ensnare:** v –

**malignancies:** n –

**patronize:** v –

**implore:** v –

**posh:** adj –

**laboriously:** adv –

**hallucinogenic:** adj –

## **Chapter 20: “Tea with the Taliban”**

**loiter:** v –

**tariff:** n –

**cajoled:** v –

**bravado:** n –

**obliterate:** v –

**sentry:** n –

**discombobulated:** adj –

**lauded:** adj –

**reclusive:** adj –

**conviction:** n –

## **Chapter 21: “Rumsfeld’s Shoes”**

**philanthropist:** n –

**AARP:** n –

**bureaucracy:** n –

**pandering:** adj –

**brigand:** n –

**prestigious:** adj –

**vaporize:** v –

**cavernous:** adj –

**intrepid:** adj –

**burkha:** n –

**scouring:** adj –

**cancerous:** adj –

**inhospitable:** adj –

## **Chapter 22: “The Enemy is Ignorance”**

**eccentricity:** n –

**incongruously:** adv –

**defer:** v –

**wallow:** v –

**nondescript:** adj –

**dispersed:** adj –

**advocating:** adj –

**elongated:** adj –

**rapture:** n –

**intractable:** adj –

**feeble:** adj –

**assert:** v –

**inaugurate:** v –

**ruminate:** v –

**encroaching:** adj –

**defiantly:** adv –

## **Chapter 23: “Stones into Schools”**

**conversant:** adj –

**suffrage:** n –

**emancipating:** adj –

**sequester:** v –

**benevolent:** adj –

**askew:** adj –

**sporadic:** adj –

**conducive:** adj –

**mete:** v –

**devout:** adj –

**subsistence:** n –

**rudimentary:** adj –



**affiliation:** n -